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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

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June 26, 2009

Docket Management Facility
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
West Building- Ground Floor
Room W12-140
Washington DC, 20590-0001

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DOCKETS
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RE: Docket No. TSA-2008-0021

The Michigan Aeronautics Commission has responsibility for preserving and developing Michigan's aviation system. As such, we are concerned about the requirements contained in the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) proposed Large Aircraft Security Program (LASP).

The LASP would require criminal background checks for flight crews, passenger checks against TSA watch lists, passenger screening for prohibited items, and enhanced general aviation airport security programs. While we believe these measures may enhance security, we are concerned by the potential for increased operating costs to participants. Unlike the commercial airline system, passengers and flight crews aboard general aviation aircraft are typically well known to the operators thus reducing the necessity for background checks.

As the proposed airport security programs will likely entail additional costs to many of Michigan's public use airports, we encourage the TSA to explore alternatives that may produce similar gains in a more cost effective manner. We respectfully request that you consider carefully the concerns of the general aviation community as you develop these important security programs.

We support efforts to increase the safety of our citizens and look forward to partnering with TSA to improve aviation security in a manner that continues to support economic development and job creation.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns about the LASP. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Rob Abent at 517-335-9568 or abentr@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Sidney Adams, Jr., Chairman
Michigan Aeronautics Commission

cc: Honorable Janet Napolitano